

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 13 & 15 February 2013

Question: E13-185

OUTCOME 1: Population Health

Topic: Independent Hospital Pricing Authority – Training

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Senator Fierravanti-Wells

Question:

- a) Has the Teaching, Training and Research Working Group been established and what work has been done to date?
- b) Why is there such a lengthy timeline – five years until 2018 – for the transition to activity based funding for teaching, training and research?
- c) With increasing numbers of health undergraduates and graduates, particularly in medicine, is there a need to look at this more urgently to ensure the right incentives and funding models are in place?
- d) What do you anticipate will be the cost of the teaching, training and research project?

Answer:

- a) The Teaching Training and Research (TTR) Working Group had been established and met for the first time on 12 February 2013. Work to date has focussed on briefing the members of the working group on the goals and indicative timelines to develop an activity based funding approach for TTR.
- b) The National Health Reform Agreement stipulates that the Independent Hospital pricing Authority (IHPA) must “provide advice to the Standing Council on Health on the feasibility of transitioning funding for teaching, training and research to Activity Based Funding or other appropriate arrangements reflecting the volumes of activities carried out under these functions by no later than 30 June 2018.”
- c) IHPA will provide advice to the Standing Council on Health at the earliest possible time, and is progressing this work as a priority.
- d) IHPA anticipates that the cost of this project will be less than \$1 million.